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Return to Gill Park

Sarah Wanlass

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Gordon, Amy. *Return to Gill Park*. Holiday House, 2006. ISBN 0823419983. \$16.95. 234 p.

Reviewer: Sarah Wanlass

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Contemporary realistic fiction; Detective and mystery stories;

Subject: Parks--Juvenile fiction; Friendship--Juvenile fiction; Schools--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Willy Wilson is a typical teenager--he attends school, enjoys time with friends, and plays the violin. However, he is also the thirteen-year-old owner of Gloria's largest park! In this sequel to *The Gorillas of Gill Park*, Willy finds himself once again in the city of Gloria. He is living with Aunt Bridget, and is now attending Gill Park Gallery School.

This new situation suits Willy quite nicely. He is excited to be back in Gloria, just minutes away from Gill Park, and close to dear friends. Besides, everything always seems to go much better in Gloria than it does at home, and the prospect of supervising Gill Park seems much easier from closer proximity. However, Willy soon finds himself spread quite thin--balancing family, friends, school, and responsibilities.

Return to Gill Park is a great pleasure book for late elementary or early middle school readers and could even be used as a read-a-loud chapter book for classroom or school. The twists and turns in this story will keep the reader in suspense. Dialogue keeps the story moving. This fun, first-person narrative will keep the reader turning pages until the book is through.